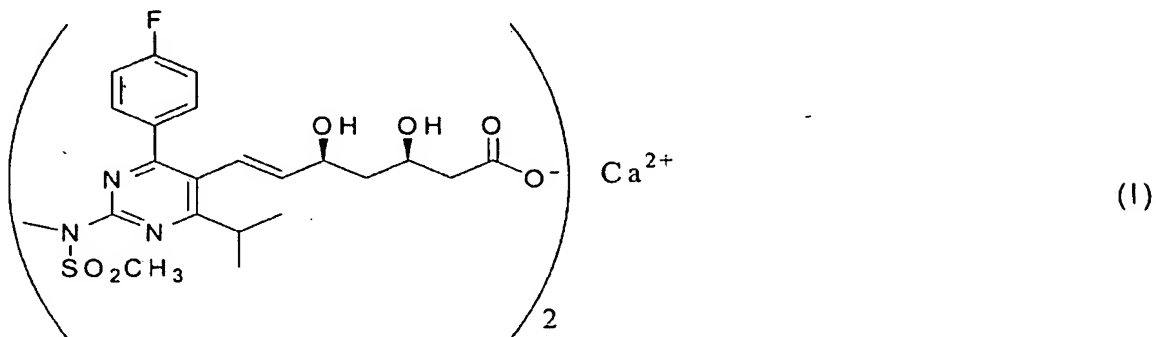


IN THE CLAIMS

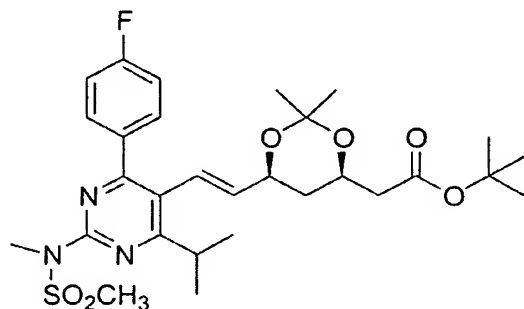
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of preparation of the hemi-calcium salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid of formula I, i.e. rosuvastatin



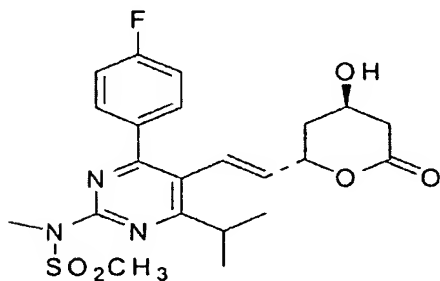
~~characterized in that~~ comprising extracting an aqueous solution of the sodium or potassium salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid, with optional admixture of sodium or potassium hydroxide or other sodium or potassium salts having inorganic anions, ~~is extracted~~ with an organic solvent, incompletely miscible with water, selected from the series of R^1COOR^2 , R^1COR^2 and R^1OH , wherein R^1 and R^2 independently represent hydrogen or a residue of a C_1 - C_{10} aliphatic hydrocarbon, C_6 aromatic hydrocarbon, C_5 or C_6 cyclic hydrocarbon, or a combination of an aliphatic and aromatic or cyclic hydrocarbon, ~~the extract being~~ subsequently ~~shaken~~ shaking the extract with an aqueous solution of an inorganic or C_1 - C_5 organic calcium salt, and further isolating the product of formula I ~~is further isolated~~ by cooling and/or adding an anti-solvent and filtration, and, optionally, ~~it is converted~~ converting the product into its amorphous form.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the aqueous solution of the sodium or potassium salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl-(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid is obtained stepwise by acidic hydrolysis and subsequent alkaline hydrolysis of the protected ester of formula III



III

or by alkaline opening of the lactone of formula IV



(IV)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the extraction of the sodium or potassium salt from the aqueous solution is performed with an ester of formula R^1COOR^2 , wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in claim 1.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the extraction is performed with ester R^1COOR^2 , wherein R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 aliphatic residue, preferably with ethyl acetate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A method of the preparation of the amorphous form of the hemi-calcium salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid of formula I, i.e. rosuvastatin, according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a solution of the hemi-calcium salt of (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxy-6-heptenoic acid in an organic solvent selected from the series of R^1COOR^2 , R^1COR^2 and R^1OH , wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in claim 1, is added dropwise to a solvent in which rosuvastatin is insoluble, selected from the series including compounds of formulae R^1H and R^1OR^2 , wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in claim 1, and water.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 5 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the compound of formula I is dissolved in a solvent selected from the series of R^1COOR^2 , R^1COR^2 and R^1OH , wherein R^1 and R^2 are ~~as defined in claim 4~~ independently hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 aliphatic residue, is added dropwise to a solvent in which rosuvastatin is insoluble, selected from the series including compounds of formulae R^1H or R^1OR^2 , wherein R^1 and R^2 are ~~as defined in claim 4~~ independently hydrogen or a C_1 - C_5 aliphatic residue, and water.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 5 ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the compound of formula I is dissolved in a solvent including ketones, particularly

acetone, ethyl methyl ketone, isopropyl methyl ketone, alcohols, particularly methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, or butanols, further esters, particularly of formic acid, acetic acid or propionic acid with methyl, ethyl or propyl alcohol, and the product is precipitated with solvents including heptane, pentane, cyclohexane, toluene, petroleum ether, diethyl ether or water.